Seth Grieser

SES350

Dr. Engelen

5/03/2020

SES350 Final Project Observations

1. The Milwaukee Bucks won the 2020 NBA Finals. I expected this outcome as they averaged the highest PPG, 118 PPG.

2. It was difficult to incorporate defensive and player stats. After trying multiple times, I settled on this way of simulating the playoffs.

3. There were upsets, sweets, etc. as expected. The simulation included the “Tie” outcome, in this case, I assumed the game was tied at end of regulation, so overtime would occur, so I just simulated the series again in this case.

4. Using statistics from NBA.com or basketball reference was difficult due to the lack of a csv file. As a result, I found 2019-2020 NBA Team Statistics on Kaggle.com, and downloaded that file.

5. There is a way to simulate teams with PPG and opponent PPG. However, this data file didn’t have opponent PPG, so I only used PPG.

6. Best of 7 led to sort of random outcomes, since each team is roughly 110 PPG and a SD of 10 Pts. As a result, I realized doing a best of 3 or 5 would just randomize the series more, and simulating 10000 games led to 50.4 to 49.6 game outcomes, with teams like the Bucks and Clippers being higher (50.7% etc.) in the win percentage of game simulations.